Members of some of the Oil Selection Boards was terminated by the Government during the last three years as per details given below owing to their unsatisfactory performance :

1.	Bihar	-	March, 1994
2.	Haryana	-	March, 1994
3.	Karnataka	-	March, 1994
4.	Maharashtra, Goa, Daman & Diu	-	March, 1994
5.	Punjab	-	March, 1994
6.	Uttar Pradesh	-	March, 1994
7.	Kerala & Lakshadweep	-	March 1994 and August, 1996
8.	Himachal Pradesh	-	April, 1995
9.	Rajasthan	-	April, 1995
10.	Tamil Nadu, Pondicherry, and Andaman & Nicobar Islands.	-	August, 1996

Infrastructure Facilities

*87. DR. M. JAGANNATH :
SHRI T. GOPAL KRISHNA :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether shortage of infrastructure facilities and fuel have threatened to derail power projects;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the present position of proposed foreign aided power projects; and

(d) the measure taken to provide adequate transport and port facilities to make MNCs plans viable?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) and (b). The shortage of infrastructure facilities and fuel has not threatened to derail power projects. Government of India closely monitors the infrastructure and fuel requirement of all the private power projects and endeavours to make infrastructure and fuel available.

(c) and (d). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

Out of the proposals involving foreign investment on the MoU/LoI etc. route costing more than Rs.100 crores and on the competitive bidding route costing more than Rs.1000 crores, 16 projects proposals have received techno-economic clearance of Central Electricity Authority (CEA), 21 have been cleared from the foreign investment angle and 3 projects have received the counter guarantee of the Government of India.

Government of India is monitoring transport arrangements for all the power projects including those put up by MNCs to ensue that the projects would get adequate transport and port facilities wherever necessary

Cryogenic Engine

*88. SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Russia has finally refused to provide India the cryogenic engine technology;

(b) if so, details thereof; and

(c) its impact on our rocket programme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) This has arisen due to the interpretation of Missile Technology Control Regime (MTCR) regulations with regard to the agreement entered into between India and Russia, for the technology transfer and training. The provision for technology transfer from the original 1991 agreement was deleted after renegotiation during 1993.

(c) While there may be marginal delays, it is not expected to cause any major setback to the programme. Government has approved the development of indigenous cryogenic upper state project in 1994. With the current level of progress in this complex technology, an ambitious goal of realising the indigenous stage is set for the time frame of 1999-2000. Seven cryo stages from Russia will be available to maintain GSLV flights till our own stage is qualified.

Mass Rapid Transit System

*89. SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS :
KUMARI UMA BHARATI :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have taken a final decision in regard to the Mass Rapid Transit System for Delhi;

(b) if so, the details of the proposal alongwith estimated cost of the project;

(c) whether any foreign assistance has been sought for the project;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the time by which the project is likely to be started?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) Yes, Sir. Delhi MRTS project was approved by the Union Cabinet on 17th September, 1996.

(b) The Modified First Phase of the project will comprise of a network of 11 Kms. of underground (metro corridor from Vishwa Vidyalaya to Central Secretariat via ISBT, Old/New Delhi Railway Stations, Connaught Place) alongwith 44.3 Kms. of elevated/surface rail corridors (Subzi Mandi to Holambi Kalan via Azadpur, Transport Nagar, Badli, Siraspur and Iradat Nagar and from Shahadra to Nangloi via ISBT, Rampura and Mangolpuri). The total estimated cost of the project at April '96 prices is Rs.4860 crores. About 60% of cost of the project will be met through loans from agencies like Overseas Economic Cooperation Fund (OECF) and about 30% of cost of the project will be funded by the Government of India and Government of NCT of Delhi, by way of equity, in equal proportions. The balance amount will be raised through the property development and the dedicated taxes/cesses. The project will be implemented by the Delhi Metro Rail Corporation - a Company already set up for the purpose.

(c) and (d). OECF (Japan) has intimated their willingness to provide a Yen loan equivalent to about 60% of the total eligible cost of the project at an interest rate of 2.3% per annum. The loan agreement is likely to be signed on a date to be intimated by OECF.

(e) The project execution is likely to commence during 1997-98 subject to availability of funds.

Delhi Electric Supply Undertaking

*90. SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Badarpur Thermal Power Station has discontinued the supply of power due to non-payment of their outstanding dues by Delhi Electric Supply Undertaking;

(b) if so, the total amount outstanding against DESU as on date;

(c) whether power generation and its supply are likely to affect the capital in near future due to it; and

(d) if so, the steps taken or being taken by the Government to meet the requirement of electricity in Delhi?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) No, Sir. Badarpur Thermal Power Station (BTPS) is continuing to supply the entire power generated by it to Delhi Electricity Supply Undertaking (DESU).

(b) to (d). A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

(b) to (d). The total dues payable by DESU to BTPS as on 31.10.1996 was Rs.5057.36 crores which includes Rs.2382.50 crores towards supply of power and Rs.2674.86 crores as surcharge. With effect from 1st October, 1996, Delhi Administration has agreed to pay Rs.36 crores every month to BTPS. Delhi Administration has also agreed to pay the current dues in full with effect from 1st January, 1997 to enable BTPS to fall in line with the "pre-payment scheme" for supply and transportation of coal to thermal power stations.

The power supply position in Delhi is periodically reviewed and appropriate remedial measures are taken to ensure supply of power. These include : (i) improvement in supply of Coal/Fuel to BTPS and DESU owned power stations; (ii) coordinating with Railways for timely transportation of coal; and (iii) augmenting supply of power from Central Generating Stations in the Northern Region.

Oil Fields

*91. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether certain oil fields have been handed over to the private consortia at the behest of the World Bank;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reasons therefor; and

(d) the loss incurred by the Oil and Natural Gas Corporation on account of handing over some oil fields to private consortia?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (d). Discovered oil fields have been offered for development by joint ventures in pursuance of a policy decision of the Government. These fields have been awarded through international competitive bidding. In the bids, signature and production bonuses are biddable items and proceeds on these accounts go to ONGC. In addition, wherever the economics of the project so permits, there has been separate compensation for past costs incurred to ONGC.

The reasons for offering these fields for private participation include :

(i) Marginal economics of some of the fields.

(ii) Low reserves of the small fields offered.

(iii) To augment total investment in exploration and development.